/213 cont./ 1

28 First among these is the making of articles of wool (sheep's wool and camel's hair), including felt, camel's-hair cloth, woven tape, and cord. The camel's-hair cloth ("shekpek") is made of fine threads of sheep and camel wool. The weaving is done exclusively by women (with the participation of two or three children). The loom, warp, etc. are prepared each time by a woman specialist. The camel's-hair cloth is used for clothing and in the economy (for bags, etc.). Decorative tapes of various widths ("bas-kur" and "uy-bau") are also woven from camel's wool. This work, when done by expert women, is not only neat and clean, but also beautiful in design. Much felt is also made (from sheep wool) and finds a wide sale among the Kirghiz /Kazak/, as do all the above articles. Sometimes colored patterns are rolled out on the felt. The making of felt is most primitive. The wool is laid in layers on top of matting, rolled up in a tube, hot water is poured on it, and it is beaten on the ground. Ropes are also twisted out of hair and wool. The Kirghiz /Kazak/, however, still do not know finer weaving. All the processes mentioned above are done only by women. Only occasionally do the men shear the wool from the animals.

The men work with leather, making shoes from it, and engage in carpentry and metalworking. /Illustration appears here./ The chief products of the latter are the framework (the kerege and other parts) of the yurt and vessels, saddles, and vehicles -- the arba /a two-wheeled wagon/ and the telega /four-wheeled wagon/, the latter being produced only recently. The metalworkers engage in the finishing of saddles, stirrups, and other parts of the harness. There are skilled appliers of silver and fine mosaic work (incrustation) on metal articles, in the fashioning of vessels and other objects of horn and ivory.

There is fishing among the /214/ Kirghiz /Kazak/ in the Zaisan and Chu regions and in part among the Ural Kirghiz /Kazak/, but it is not of great importance for them. All Kirghiz /Kazak/ have a passion for hunting, especially with a falcon or golden eagle, but less as a practical occupation than as an interesting sport and recreation. Hunting has a practical character for only a small part of the population.

1 [i.e. The domestic occupations of the Kazak -- Analyst]